



Keith Chapman  
Town Manager

# TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 Cedar Street Newington, Connecticut 06111

## Police Department



Stephen Clark  
Chief of Police

**MINUTES**  
**POLICE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**Zoom Meeting**  
**7:00 P.M.**  
**July 9, 2020**

*Handwritten notes:*  
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2020 JUL 13 6:10:18  
Newington Police Dept

**In Attendance:** Chief Clark  
Ken Morotto Jr.  
Mary Houle  
Todd Russell  
Robin Aldieri  
Paul Alderucci  
Andrew Messana

2 members of the public

Called to Order at 7:04 PM

**I. UPDATE ON DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES**

**A. Staffing**

Lieutenant Michael Morgan retired effective June 30, 2020. He has been hired by the Newington Board of Education as the Director of School Security. Two officers are currently on light duty due to injury. Two entry level police officer positions and the civilian evidence/property officer position are frozen due to cost saving measures that are in place due to COVID-19 and the possibility of loss tax revenue.

**C. Calls for Service January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020 compared to same period last year. Total calls were 11,112. Preliminary results show substantial increases in crime.**

- Breach of Peace **up 21%**
- Burglary **up 23%**
- Domestic Violence **up 8%**
- Larceny **up 21%**
- Car Breaks **up 77%**
- Stolen Cars **up 63%**
- Traffic Stops **down 56%**
- Arrests **down 20%**

D. Activities

Department community outreach programs have been suspended due to COVID-19.

II. BLACK LIVES MATTER DEMONSTRATION JUNE 4, 2020 REVIEW

The department spent \$12,000 in police overtime to cover the demonstration. An unmarked police vehicle sustained approximately \$3,000 in damage when the protesters used it as a stage. Contrary to what has been posted on social media, the protesters were not given permission to use the car. The department operational plan and contingencies plan worked well. Having the 6 highway department dump trucks held in reserve as barricades worked out very well especially when the protestors went into the intersection and then marched on Main Street.

III. PROPOSED CONNECTICUT LEGISLATIVE POLICE REFORMS

There are a number of police reform bills that will be considered at a special session at the state capitol. Some of the bills will have a serious impact on the department's ability to recruit and retain police officers. Some bills deal directly with investigating officers for misconduct. The department has received just 3 officer complaints so far this year.

IV. COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The following is a list of all the departments community outreach programs.

**Citizen Police Academy**

**Youth Academy**

**Rape Aggression Defense (RAD)**

**National Night Out**

**Project Hope**

**School Resource Officer**

**Schools-guest readers, criminal investigation presentations, invited to sponsor children for grandparents and special persons day.**

**Member-Newington Chamber of Commerce**

**Stuff a Cruiser**

**Shop with a Cop**

**Special Olympics**

**Coffee with a Cop**

**Police-Community Council**

V. CENTER FOR POLICING EQUITY UPDATE

Ivonne Roman is the department's new liaison from CPE. She is the former Chief of Police in Newark, New Jersey. They are hopeful that the final report will be ready at the end of year. The final report will be made public.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Susan Mazzocoli spoke in support of the SRO at the high school and other programs to strengthen police community relations.

Gail Budrejko had concerns about the proposed legislative reforms and how the reforms will affect the department.

VII. MEMBER COMMENT

Mary Houle introduced the idea of having a headlight/taillight clinic. The department and PCC will research the idea with the hopes of sponsoring a clinic.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Stephen Clark